

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the Office Action mailed June 29, 2005.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended to address the Examiner's claim objections under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) and rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Further, claims 6-16 have been rewritten as new claims 19-29 to direct to the allowable subject matter indicated in the Office Actions of January 12, 2005 and June 29, 2005. Thus, claims 6-16 have been canceled in view of the new claims. Lastly, claim 18 have been amended to depend on new claim 22. Support for the claim amendments and new claims can be found throughout the specification and the original claims. Thus, claims 1-5 and 17-29 are pending in this application.

In view of this Amendment, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c)

Claims 6-16 and 18 are objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) as allegedly being in improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection. However, in order to expedite the allowance of the present invention, Applicant has rewritten claims 6-16 as new claims 19-29 and amended the dependency of claim 18 to claim 22 to address the Examiner's concerns and to direct to the allowable subject matter indicated in the Office Actions of January 12, 2005 and June 29, 2005. Thus, in view of such amendments, Applicant believes that this rejection can no longer be sustained and should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for alleged non-enablement. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Based on Applicant's amendments to claim 1, Applicant believes that the specification does reasonably provide enablement for the amino group-containing compounds recited in the claims. On page 12, line 21, to page 13, line 1, the specification discloses that "[T]he amino group in the amino group-containing compound may be any one of an aliphatic amino group, an aromatic amino group (i.e., an amino group bonded to an aromatic ring), and

an amino group that constitutes a nitrogen-containing heterocycle (heterocyclic amine)”.

It is further disclosed on page 16, lines 10-22, of the specification that “[E]xamples of the aromatic (poly)amines and heterocyclic amines may include dipyridylamine, dipyridyl, ethylenedipyridyl, trimethylenedipyridyl, phenazine, purine, pteridin, dipyridylamine, 1,2-bis-(4-pyridyl)-ethane, 2 (or 4)-(beta.-hydroxyethyl)-pyridine, 2 (or 4)-(2-aminoethyl)-pyridine, 2 (or 4)-aminopyridine, 2,6-diaminopyridine, 2-amino-6-hydroxypyridine, 6-azathymine, metaphenylenediamine, diaminodiphenylmethane, diaminodiphenylsulfone, and 3-amino-1,2,4-triazole, which may have a substituent described below; and compounds exemplified as nitrogen-containing heterocycles in the thermoplastic elastomers described below, which may have a substituent described below”.

It is still further disclosed on page 23, lines 2-10, of the specification that “[T]he amino group-containing compound of the second embodiment as described above is not particularly limited, and examples thereof include: polymers such as polyamide, polyurethane, a urea resin, a melamine resin, polyvinylamine, polyallylamine, polyacrylamide, polymethacrylamide, polyaminostyrene, and amino group-containing polysiloxane; and polymers obtained by modifying various kinds of polymers with respective compounds having amino groups.”

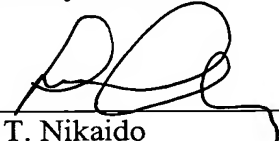
Thus, given the teachings of the present specification referenced above, it is clear that the amino group-containing compounds of the thermoplastic elastomer composition is enabled under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are believed to be clearly patentable over the outstanding rejections. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the claims in light of the above remarks is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Dated: August 24, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
David T. Nikaido
Registration No.: 22,663

Lee Cheng
Registration No.: 40,949

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC
1233 20th Street, N.W.
Suite 501
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 955-3750
Attorneys for Applicant

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 180013 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.